

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT: Gao et al.) GROUP ART UNIT: 1621
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SERIAL NO.: 10/633,194) CONFIRMATION NO.: 3162
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EXAMINER: Lao) ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.: 01259/2/US
))
FILED: July 31, 2003) (PC27636)
)
TITLE: GELATIN CAPSULE EXHIBITING REDUCED CROSS-LINKING

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 27, 2006

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office action of August 1, 2006 in the above-identified application, the time for response to which has been extended by one (1) month, please consider the following remarks.

Claims 1-33 are pending, and are subject to restriction between Group I (claims 1-18) and Group II (claims 19-33). Applicants elect the invention of Group II, and reserve the right to file one or more divisional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter.

Further to the request under 35 U.S.C. §121, requiring election of species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable, Applicants elect sodium metabisulfite as the sulfite compound. Claims 19-33 read on the elected species.

Applicants submit that the present invention is now in condition for allowance. Early allowance of all pending claims is respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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